

June 24, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZATION OF A THREE-YEAR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY AND THE CITY OF BELLFLOWER
TO CONTINUE THE STRATEGIES AGAINST GANG ENVIRONMENTS (SAGE)
PROGRAM (4th DISTRICT) (3-VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Instruct the Chair to sign the enclosed Agreement between Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office (County) and the City of Bellflower (City) for the SAGE Program. The City will provide compensation to the District Attorney's Office in the amount of \$140,355 for the period July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004.
2. Authorize the District Attorney, or his designee, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles, to serve as Project Director for the SAGE Program, and to execute and approve up to two one-year extensions to the Agreement, including amendments and augmentations to any program goals or objectives, or budget revisions to the program, upon mutual agreement of the County and City.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The SAGE Program abates street gang violence and narcotic-related activities by utilizing civil injunctions and other procedures deemed appropriate by the parties to this Agreement. This Agreement will provide for the services of a Deputy District Attorney III (DDA III) to the City for this purpose. All services provided shall be consistent with the laws of the State of California, and the guidelines of the County and the City.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The focus of this program is consistent with the County's Vision and Strategic Plan in that it supports the County's "philosophy of teamwork and collaboration". This program creates a partnership between the District Attorney's Office and the City of Bellflower to combat street gang violence.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The total cost of this Agreement for the salary and employee benefits of one DDA III is \$140,355 for the period covering July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004. The City is providing 100 percent of this cost for the duration of the Agreement. Therefore, there is no net County cost impact.

The annual cost in each subsequent year shall be limited to the actual compensation level approved by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors for Deputy District Attorney staff.

If funding for this Agreement were terminated, an evaluation would be conducted to determine whether the program will either be continued with costs absorbed by the department, or discontinued with the reallocation of staff to vacant-budgeted positions.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The City of Bellflower has requested to continue this Agreement for the eighth year with the County of Los Angeles District Attorney's Office.

The Deputy District Attorney III assigned to this program will pursue civil nuisance abatement actions, and will advise and work with City law enforcement officers, community leaders, other officials, and members of the community to assist in the development of a multifaceted strategy for improving public safety.

This Agreement will enhance the City's efforts to reduce street gang violence and graffiti problems, and to divert potentially dangerous gang activity into more constructive behavior in their community. The County has adopted and implemented the SAGE program in other cities by providing these legal services.

The City Council of Bellflower has approved and signed this Agreement. Approval and signature by the Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors is required to fully execute the SAGE Agreement for the current year.

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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The Bellflower SAGE program does not propose attorney staff augmentation. Therefore, the District Attorney's Office is not subject to the Board motion of December 15, 1998, requiring clearance with Alternate Public Defender, Probation, Public Defender and Sheriff's Departments.

CONCLUSION:

Acceptance of this Agreement is strongly recommended.

Following Board approval of this Agreement, the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board is requested to return two copies of the adopted Board letter and Agreement, containing original signatures, to Albert Ablaza, Grants Analyst, Los Angeles County District Attorney, 201 North Figueroa Street, Suite 1300, Los Angeles, California 90012. Any questions may be directed to Albert Ablaza at (213) 202-7683.

Very truly yours,

STEVE COOLEY
District Attorney

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Enclosure

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel